

The EQ Positive Impact Portfolios invest in companies that are making a positive impact on society and the environment by providing solutions to real world problems. We use the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals as a way to map the impact of their products and services.

Our quarterly updates feature examples of these companies and funds; here we will focus on three relating to goals 3 - Good health and well-being; 8 - Expanding financial services to support growth across developing economies; and 7 - Boosting clean energy investment in emerging countries.



The ongoing fight against diabetes

Diabetes is one of the world's four major noncommunicable (not passed from person to person) diseases, affecting [an estimated 463 million people worldwide](#),

many of which are undiagnosed and lack adequate treatment. People with type-2 diabetes can no longer produce insulin because of issues related to obesity, while type-1 diabetes patients do not produce insulin due to auto-immune disorder.

In relation to the former, a result of rising incomes in developing countries and the relatively unhealthy lifestyle patterns that often follow, it is expected that the number of adults worldwide living with diabetes [will rise by 51% by 2045 \(vs 2019 levels\)](#). A key preventative action is to provide affordable healthy nutrition and exercise, but lifesaving treatment for patients is still necessary.

FUND IN FOCUS

Regnan Global Equity
Impact Solutions fund



Novo Nordisk received investments from the Regnan Global Equity impact Solutions fund. The fund also invests in solutions that help increase healthcare efficiencies, like leading laboratory equipment and medical analytics company [Agilent Technologies](#).

EXAMPLE HOLDING

Novo Nordisk



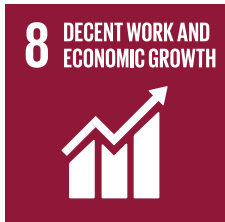
Novo Nordisk is the global leader in providing treatment for people living with diabetes, obesity, and endocrine diseases. By the end of 2020, Novo Nordisk had

[32.8 million people globally using its diabetic care products,](#)

including essential insulin injections. Demonstrating the company's commitment to providing universal health access, its 'Access to insulin' programme guarantees the supply of low-priced human insulin to governments in the poorest countries.

As part of its innovative approach to fighting diabetes, and to tackle one of the main causes of type-2 diabetes, obesity, Novo Nordisk has expanded its product development to include weight-management drugs like Saxenda.





Expanding financial services to support growth across developing economies

The financial sector plays a critical role as a provider of capital for people and businesses, and therefore can support various socioeconomic and environmental development goals. Over 1.5 billion people and countless businesses remain excluded from traditional banking systems across emerging markets, and this limits progress on ending poverty, fighting inequality, and promoting sustainable economic growth.

Key enablers to achieve '[Universal Financial Access](#)' include extending financial education, accessing remote locations, digitising banks to remove physical barriers and to offer fair and accessible savings and loan products. It is also critical that local emerging market banks set commitments and collaborate to deliver on this.

FUND IN FOCUS

**BMO Responsible
Global Equity Fund**



Bank Rakyat Indonesia received investment from the BMO Responsible Global Equity Fund. The fund also invests in other banks enhancing financial inclusion in emerging markets, such as [HDFC Bank](#) and [ICICI Bank](#) in India.

**Bank Rakyat
Indonesia**



Bank Rakyat Indonesia (BRI) is one of Indonesia's largest banks and demonstrates a priority to service micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and extend financial services to the underserved. In 2020,

**[BRI reached 83 million
customers with a micro
savings accounts,](#)**

providing financial security and inclusion to the formal economy.

To enable greater reach and bringing down remaining barriers to financial inclusion, BRI offers free financial literacy training and local representative "agents" in rural regions. The bank has developed specialist products to support smallholder farmers across Indonesia, aiming to improve sustainable food yields and the stability of their livelihoods. In the last year [3.7 million farmers benefited from specialist credit cards that allow subsidised purchasing of essential equipment and agricultural insurance.](#)



7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



Boosting clean energy investment in emerging countries

To meet our goal to limit global warming from exceeding 1.5 degrees since preindustrial temperature levels, all economies must target net-carbon zero. In 2020, many governments around the world (including the US and China), as well as the EU, have set new top-level net zero targets, but we are currently far off the necessary annual emissions reductions to help us get there.

Public spending on green infrastructure has been promised, but private capital can help accelerate the green transition. Emerging markets still heavily depend on the most carbon intensive fuel - thermal coal. They also have the highest forecast growth in energy demand due to rising incomes and populations. Green bond proceeds can help finance green electricity, affordably.

EXAMPLE HOLDING

ReNew Power Green bond



More than half of India's current power mix comes from coal-fired power plants. To reduce the carbon intensity of the grid while also extending energy access to all members of society, renewable energy capacity needs to be expanded. ReNew Power is an independent power producer in India, solely focused on harnessing solar and wind energy and delivering on India's government plan [to expand its renewable energy capacity 9x by 2030](#).

The proceeds raised through the company's Green Bonds will be used for financing

**354 MW solar power and
280MW wind power projects.**

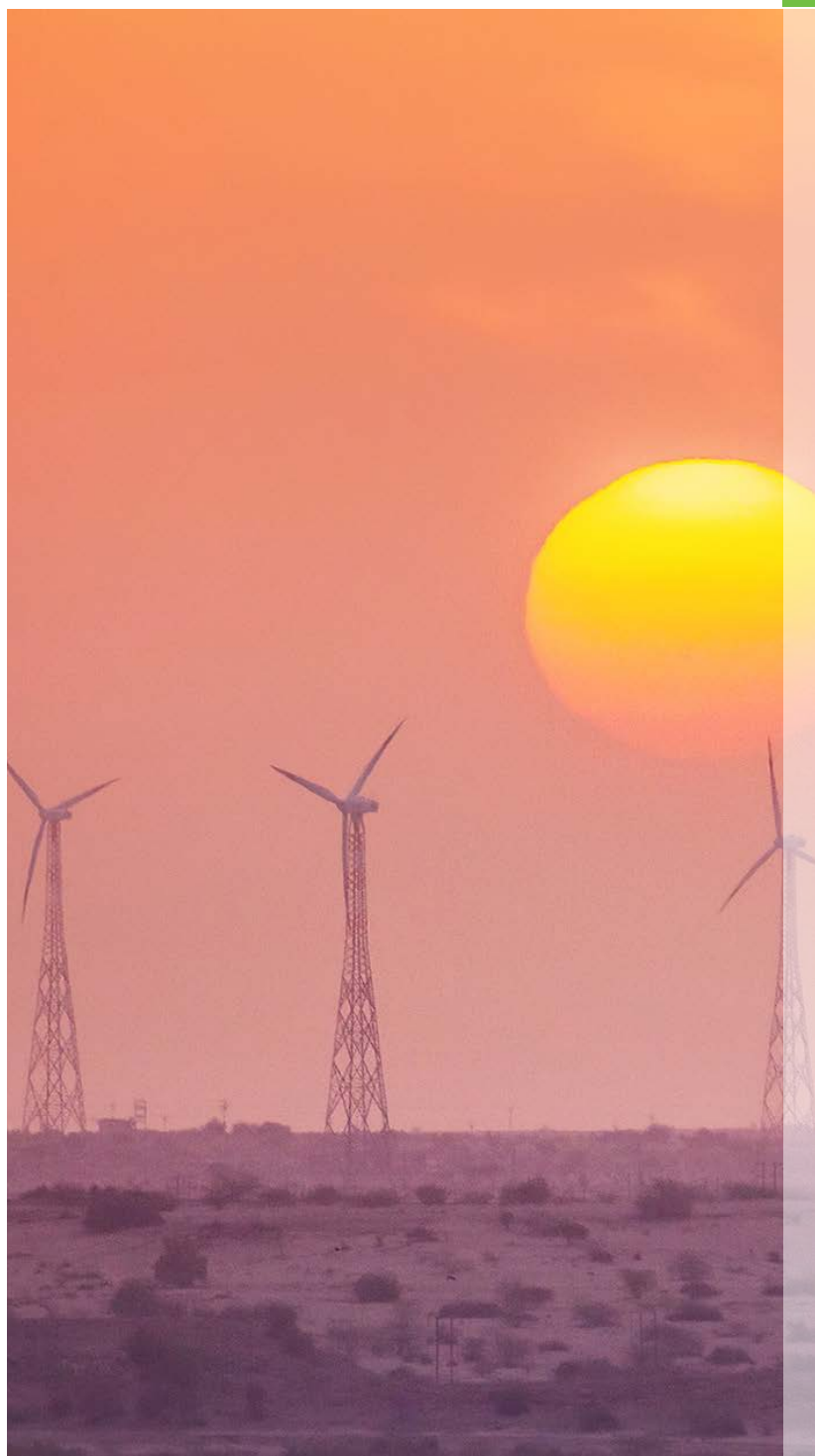
In line with best practises, the bond's proceeds are ringfenced for this specific purpose, and annual reporting will report on achieved impact.

FUND IN FOCUS

Amundi Emerging Market Green Bond fund



The ReNew Power green bond received investments from Amundi Emerging market Green bond fund. Another invested green bond contributing to India's green transition was issued by [Adani Green Energy](#).



Want to learn more about the UN Goals, and why we use them? Take a look at our annual Impact Report – and calculate the impact of your own portfolio online – at: eqinvestors.co.uk

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Risk warning

Past performance is not a guide to future performance. The value of investments and the income derived from them may go down as well as up and investors may get back less than they originally invested. The Positive Impact Portfolios are available in seven different risk profiles.

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